

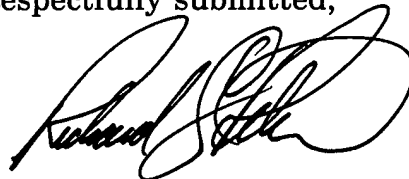
REMARKS

The Patent and Trademark Office Action, dated February 8, 2007, has been carefully reviewed. Claims 2, 4 - 10 and 16 - 19 remain in the application. Claim 2 is amended to avoid the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112. The structure of the claimed device is described on page 8, in paragraphs 3 and 5. Figs. 1 and 2 clearly depict the cross beam connected to the two post supports with the cross beam elevated above the bed and platform. No new matter is added. Any implication that there is a mechanism that actively elevates the cross beam as suggested by the Examiner is thereby eliminated.

The newly cited references of Evans and Brown, et al., add little other than a disclosure of tracking mechanisms. Similarly, the Cohen, et al. '437 and '982 references, while related to the field of robotic tube handlers, are only marginally related. Applicants stand on their past arguments noting that the Examiner is using a hindsight approach to assemble disparate references, many unrelated or showing features that are not the same as defined by Applicants to create an assemblage that is argued to read on a particular claim. Applicants consider that the case is therefore at issue, but for the §112 rejection.

Applicants therefore request entry of the §116 amendment as clearly placing the application in better form for appeal by eliminating the §112 issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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